

every suitable occasion, Root grafting of young trees may be attended to by placing them in boxes of sand or earth in the cellar. Manure may be brought out to the spot where it is to be used, if the surface should be extensive. Air may be admitted to the greenhouse, taking care that the temperature is kept above the freezing point—range from 35° to 60°. Camellias in full bloom require daily syringing and watering—guard against the red spider. If neglected in autumn, cuttings may now be put in of Verbenas, Petunias, Heliotropiums, Calceolarias, Fuchias. Fumigate when necessary. Tie up the flower stalks of Hyacinths, Narcissus, Gladiolas and other bulbs. Repot plants requiring more room. Take care in the hot house to put on the shutters at an early hour at night, to guard against the effects of frosty winds, removing them at sun rise in the morning. Admit air regularly, when practicable. Bring forward bulbs, to keep up a succession. Be attentive about washing and syringing. Regulate the heat as evenly as possible, and according to individual wants. Guard against insect pests—especially the red spider—using the syringe and fumigation. Do not allow snow to remain on the shutters any length of time. The whole house should be daily syringed thoroughly, watering in the morning—placing evaporating pans filled with water, in different parts of the house. The weather has been of late variable and unseasonable.

J. A.

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We are glad to observe that Hon. Judge Mason of Iowa, who made himself so popular with the Inventors of the Country while he held the office of Commissioner of Patents has, we learn, associated himself with Munn & Co., at the Scientific American office, New-York.

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### IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

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Rev. Mr. Seeley, formerly of Springfield, Mass., now in Paris, communicates to the Springfield Republican the interesting particulars of a promising discovery in France for purposes of Health, Agriculture and Surgery:—

This discovery, made by Messrs. Corne and Demeaux, and thus far known as "Corne and Demeaux's Disinfecting Powder," or as the "French Disinfecting Powder," is as simple as its results promise to be important. These gentlemen, in the course of some experiments, ascertained that a simple mixture of the ordinary plaster of Paris and coal tar (which is produced by the distillation of coal for gas) has very powerful anti-septic properties. The proportions of the ingredients are, one hundred parts of the plaster of Paris, to from one to three parts of the coal tar; and the mixture to be thoroughly made with a mortar and pestle, or in a hand mill, or by such other method as the quantity desired and the means of the operator may dictate.

The process cannot be very difficult, since the article fully prepared is sold in Paris for about ten cents per pound. It is used for disinfecting, or anti-septic.